

1916-17 Western Liberal Mining Review

VOLUME XXX

Friday December 22, 1916

NUMBER 6

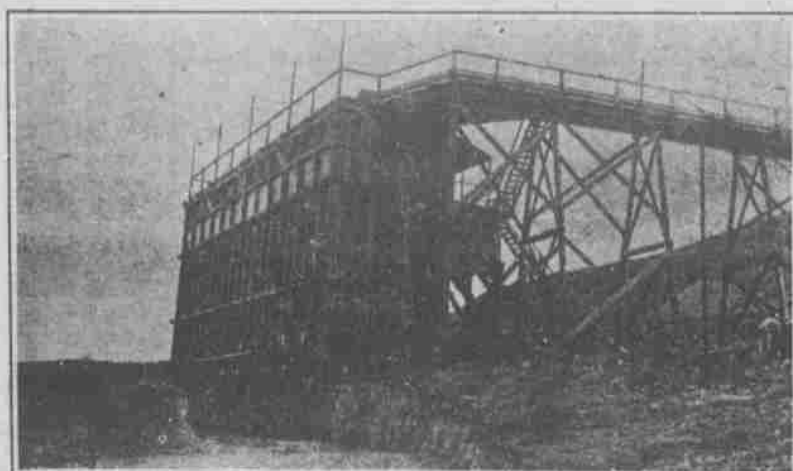
Resume of Camp's Activity This Year

The 1915 yield from this district was the largest in its history, says the Geological Survey. All the ore was shipped to smelters. The average assay per ton for the district in 1915 was gold, 0.1171 ounce, silver 4.06 ounces, and copper 2.11 per cent. The principal producing mine was the Eighty-five. This company curtailed its production during the early part of 1915 on account of the unsettled condition of the copper market during that period, but during the later part of the year shipped the largest quantity of ore in its history. In October this company took over the property of the Atwood Mining Co. In addition to its mining operations, the company did a large amount of underground development and exploration work with core drills. Other producing mines were the Atwood, Battleship, Bonney, Carie, Dundee, Eldorado, Nellie Bly, Ontario, Robert E. Lee, Triangle, and Waldo-Bean.

The ore bearing lodes of the district occur as fissures in a Diorite country rock changing at places to andesite and andesite-porphry. There are at irregular intervals intrusions of the diorite into the andesite. Wherever these intrusions occur the ore is generally in large quantities and of high values. The fracturing in the magma, bringing about the fissure veins, has evidently been the result of ascending gases and internal eruption. Later, descending solutions percolating through the silicious vein filling has deposited the mineral. This is more fully verified by the fact that the higher gold and silver values are nearer the surface. There has been no intricate faulting on the property of the 85 Mining Company although a slight shearing has taken place. The dip of the 85 vein is 76 degrees southwest and the strike is north 40 degrees east. The width of the vein varies from five feet to fifteen feet and the total values range from \$7 to \$15 per ton. The character of the 85 mine ore is oxides, chlorides and sulphides with occasional high grade chalcocite pockets occurring as ore shoots in the vein.

Never before in the history of Lordsburg mines has the future looked so promising as at the time now at hand. The ore shipments from the camp are larger than they have ever been; more mines are in active operation and better values are being obtained than any of the old-time mining men of the southwest remember.

Mining, cattle and farming are Lordsburg's assets. Right now mining is in the limelight. Witness the progress from the mining section of this holiday edition of the Liberal. Boost for the Lordsburg mines. Give them credit for what they have done and encourage others to enter the field.



85 Mine Ore Bins.



View of 85 Mine Camp.

Report of The Entire Lordsburg District

Compiled by Engineers and Men in the Field

Geology and Ores

The Pyramid range of mountains appears to have had its birth toward the close of the Tertiary. The focal point of dynamical energy was centered about Pyramid Peak, from which the range of mountains took its name.

The principal eruptions forming the chief country rock is andesite. This type of rock is general throughout the range, and frequently has a granular and crystalline structure, passing into aphanitic and fluidal phases.

In the central and northwest part of the mining area the rocks are more coarsely crystalline, with phenocrysts of feldspar. Some carboniferous limestone exists a few miles to the south and southeast of Pyramid Peak.

There seems to be two general types of veins or zones in and along which the metallic values have segregated:

- (1) True fissure.
- (2) Sheared or shattered zone.

In either case the mineralization is apparently from below; that is, ascending mineral-bearing solutions of hot water. In view of this fact there can be no question about extreme depth to the deposits. Therefore the primary ores exist as sulphides. The oxidized ores will doubtless continue, in most parts of the region, to a depth of 400 feet, and even more in some instances. Subsequent action of descending oxygenated water has altered the primary sulphides near the surface and re-deposited the metallic compounds at greater depths, forming zones of secondary enrichment. This action has been general throughout the region. Closer study of these deposits tends to the belief that most of the ores have been dissolved and re-deposited many times before reaching their present position, thus receding in direct ratio as encroachment by erosion advances.

The economic ores of the region are those of copper, silver, lead and gold; their importance is taken in the order named. In the earlier surface mining silver held first place; but in the later deeper workings most of the values seem to have a general tendency toward that of copper.

The most favorable aspect of the region is noted in the gradual enrichment of the ores at depth. In every property where a depth of 300 feet or more has been reached the ores are uniformly of higher grade and less silicious in character than in the more shallow workings. Stimulated by this fact, those who have the courage and the capital to prosecute work at depth need have but little fear of the ultimate outcome, provided the work is intelligently directed.

The Lordsburg region is composed of two districts, viz.: The Pyramid and Virginia.

Pyramid district occupies the country about the base of Pyramid Peak, while the Virginia comprises the district farther to the north, and embraces everything lying between the Pyramid district and the Southern Pacific tracks.

Concluding Remarks

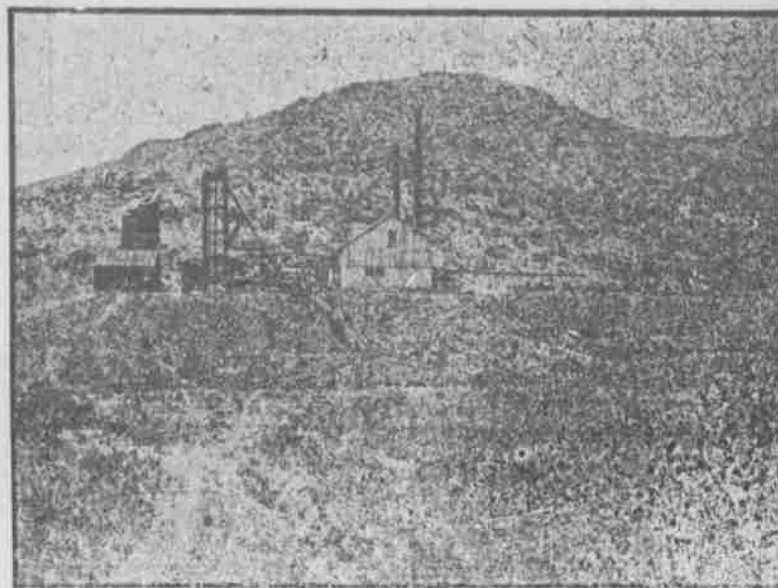
Taking all in all, the Lordsburg mining region is one of merit and well worth the attention of capital seeking mining investments. The surface showing is splendid. The deeper workings are uniformly paying properties. An excellent climate, splendid railway facilities, cheap labor, convenient to smelters—are all factors to be desired in successful mining operations.

Statistics of Camp Production 1907-15

Mine production of gold, silver, copper and lead in the Lordsburg district, Grant County, New Mexico, 1907-1915.

Year	Ore	Gold	Silver	Copper	Lead	Total
	Short Tons	Fine ounces	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Value
1907	5,645	8,761	31,303	463,335	10,533	122,646
1908	7,532	10,617	9,889	339,079	11,863	86,354
1909	10,690	25,983	50,154	589,939	8,562	129,140
1910	29,220	59,798	130,324	1,627,591	19,663	337,742
1911	46,139	106,648	182,448	2,455,366	2,157	510,889
1912	55,340	144,859	275,251	3,155,585	4,562	885,915
1913	31,284	55,234	154,779	1,601,461	14,572	397,566
1914	38,964	101,080	232,647	2,614,674	30,049	578,658
1915	93,093	222,848	374,325	3,890,365	28,723	1,094,795

The Lordsburg mining region lies immediately south of the village of Lordsburg and embraces the low, short desert range of the Pyramid Mountains. It lies between the Southern Pacific Railway on the north and the El Paso and Southwestern system on the south. A branch line operated by this latter system connects Hatch with Lordsburg, extending northwest to the great copper camps of Clifton and Morenci, in Arizona.



Octo Mine at Lee's Peak.

View of the BONNEY MINE

